# The Irondale Historical

February 2011

Irondale Historical Society
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in this newsletter.

Welcome to this edition of the Irondale Historical Society's newsletter; where you will find snippets of history, "Mystery" photos, exciting finds and breaking news. We trust you will enjoy.

## We are Official !!

We received our incorporation number and paperwork in mid December. Our next step is to file the necessary documents to obtain charitable status. I am compiling the necessary letters of support etc. to send to the respective government office .... a long process I'm sure.

## Church update

We are still waiting for the Anglican Diocese to tell us what price they want for the building known as the Irondale Church.

August 26 2010, George Simmons addressed the Township of Minden Hills Council, asking for them to designate the church and to consider buying it. Council passed resolution #10-298,"Be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Minden Hills issue a Notice of Intention to designate St John's Anglican Church, Irondale as a Heritage Building, once the proper documentation for by-law preparation is received from the Irondale Historical Committee."

*See page two for continuing story*

## FUNDRAISERS

Fred Simmons is chomping at the bit to start some much needed fundraising. He is organizing a WILD GAME EVENING. Wild Game as in Venison, Moose, Bear etc., not wild games. Altho I have seen some get pretty wild at local dinner auctions. Tickets are limited and will be available on first come first served basis. The event will be held **July 23** Tickets are $20 and available now. Email him at simmons03@xplornet.ca, then send along a cheque made payable to the Irondale Historical Society, Box 113, Irondale, Ontario K0M 1X0. You will want to bring along some extra cash. Fred has some 'wild' ideas for your gambling pleasure.

*See page four for continuing story*

## www.IrondaleOntario.ca

www.IrondaleOntario.ca has some fantastic features!

You need to check the website out, enjoy the photo album, reading the memories of others and above all – lend us your treasures. Thanks to Dorothy Reid, Kathy McAlpine, Marg Swanton, and Grenville Schrader and Elva Bates for sharing with us.

**Women's Institute, Irondale** You will recall in our last newsletter, I had mentioned this clipping. Thought we'd share it with you, perhaps it will stir some memories or encourage you to go through boxes of memories you may have gathered over the years.

**Pic of the Past**

ECHO JAN. 5/93

This week's photo shows a Women's Institute picnic at Devils Rapids in Irondale in June of 1906. From left are: Rear row: Emma Barr; Mrs. Samson (Emma Jane) Wright; Peter Albert Barr, who died April, 1921; Gordon Maxwell, with felt hat; John Maxwell, who drowned in Bark Lake on Dec. 9, 1914; Mrs. John (Janey) Maxwell; Maude Maxwell (Mackey); Ralph Flood, at the end of the row. Front row: Milly Wright; Pearl Barr (Mrs. Robert Hunter); William and Margaret Hartin; Mrs. Arthur Graham, with glasses; Mrs. Filken; Bertha Filkin (Mrs. Dr. Lumb, Bancroft); Lila Filkin, with white hat; Rev. Mrs. A.E. Hie; John Willie Graham; Roy Graham, front; Lawrence Barr, straw hat; William Peacock, black felt hat; Grace Maxwell, rear; Kate Peacock, white dress; Herb Maxwell; Mae Filkin (Mrs. Harvey Mintz); Martha Maxwell (Mrs. Soverign); Elsi Maxwell, white dress; Mrs. Pearl Casey. The child in the front is Luella Flood (Mrs. Fred Griffin). The photo and caption information are courtesy of Ron Barr, Gooderham.

*Like to be a printing provider?* Each issue costs $ 20 to print for those without an email address.

*Like to be a postage provider?* Each issue costs $ 20 to mail those without an email address.

*Contact the Editor of this publication for further information*

# Wild Game Dinner Event

Cost: $20 per person
Where: Galway Hall
Crystal Lake Rd, Kinmount
When: Saturday July 23, 2011
Doors open 5:00
Dinner served 6:30
Why: to support Irondale Historical Society

Church update cont'd

January 7, 2011, each council member had received a 17 page report prepared by Carol Simmons. This report was to ready them for their Jan 13, 2011 Committee of the Whole meeting. This extensive report gave a draft by-law to designate, outlined the specific pieces we wished designated, the reasons for not designating the whole 'part and parcel', photos of the church over the years (thank goodness we had some digitized for easy access) and a copy of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario report.

Council only had one question for Carol ... Does Irondale Historical Society's intention to purchase the church property hinge on the designation? Answer was No. Council will ask their department heads to make recommendations on the designation proposal. These reports will be presented on Feb 10 at their next Committee of the Whole meeting. Discussion will take place that day. Potentially we could have a final decision on the by-law being made at the following council meeting on Feb 24. The action of designating the church etc. will prevent anyone from destroying the building. Any changes would require township approval to ensure the historical elements are kept within the standards set out by the Ontario Heritage Act.

www.evilmadscientist.com/article.php/sturgeonsmill

IRONDALE.

Among the many improvements of our town is that of a large steam saw mill which is being erected on the bank of the river and immediately at the side of the railroad. The faculties for getting timber, &c., to and from the mill is good, having advantage of river, railroad and road. The mill is well suited for the work required of it, being fitted out with a carriage capable of admitting the sawing of a piece of timber 60ft in length; the engine is 35 h.r., while the boiler is a 40 h.p. The proprietor, Mr. Peter Hansel, late of Waterdown, Ont., appears to be an obliging and enterprising man. We wish both him and his men success.

On Tuesday Dec. 30th, old Mr. Maxwell started to go to a neighbors, and a friend, who came along shortly afterwards, found him by the side of the road dead. He had evidently sat down to light his pipe and fell over and expired. His friends have our sympathy.

*Copied verbatim from newspaper clipping*
*The Minden Echo Friday, January 10, 1890*

## The Depression by Burleigh Wallace

Seems quite funny, there's no money,
If the stuff is still in stock;
It must be securely hidden,
Stored away in some old sock.

Where's the famous prosperous corner,
On which all our hopes are pinned?
If we don't soon get around it,
We can never raise the wind.

If we ever pay our taxes,
While the 'phone rates climb and leap,
We'll discard the well-known saying,
Often heard that "talk is cheap".

When we get a flock of "dunners",
Pockets empty, save for chaff,
Once again we're up against it,
"Please remit by cheque or draft".

If we try to get some slumber,
Settle down at last to snore;
Still in dreams we see the Bailiff,
Knocking at the old front door.

Money soon shall join the antiques,
If we see it any more,
Twill be in a glass jar labelled,
Used as late as '34".

*We'd love to hear your stories of the depression years. Perhaps you remember stories that parents or grandparents told as they reminisced. Give us a call, we love to listen.*

**Membership drive**

Membership in this Society shall be open to any person interested in the history of the Irondale area, and such person may be enrolled as a member upon the receipt of the application and fee in accordance with the By-Law of the Society.

Membership forms can be found on the Society's website. www.IrondaleOntario.ca Please print one off and mail with payment ($10 per person) to Irondale Historical Society, Box 113, Irondale, Ontario K0M 1X0

**Your support & membership dollar is greatly appreciated.**

*Fundraising cont'd from page one...*

Carol Simmons has plans for a Ladies Victorian Tea on a Saturday in early June. Ladies will enjoy fancy sandwiches, fresh scones Devonshire cream & preserves, fresh fruits, dainty dessert items. All served on 3 tiered plates, china teacups, cloth napkins, and appropriate entertainment. More on this event will follow at a later date. Call or email simmons03@gmail.com , 705-286-3588 or 705-457-8438 if you would like to be put on the advance notice list for this event.

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**RAILWAY MEMORABILIA**

The Irondale Historical Society wants to collect pictures of any memorabilia from the Irondale area. Please let us know if you have some – or know someone that does. We will take copies to be kept in the Irondale File Box. We'll be able to make use of it in the future for displays etc.

Speaking of Irondale's railway – I have been corresponding with the curator of the museum that has James Howland's model of the Irondale railway with station and church.

Would there be any of you interested in a trip to view this train set up? We'll make it for a month when we are ensured of better driving conditions. Price per seat will depend on numbers. Interested? Give Carol a call or email.

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**The Family Herald** by Jennie Hagan

"If a family lacked good reference books in the home, they often gathered information and made Scrapbooks on many topics from the weekly edition of the Family Herald. It was an excellent farm paper or magazine, and had something for every member of the family. It was the oldest and most widely circulated journal in Canada and undoubtedly the friendliest magazine in America. For nearly a century it gave advice on every conceivable subject.

Through its columns it advised farmers on crop management, farm machinery, gave farm prices, doctored sick animals, and advertised everything from threshing machines to puppy dogs. There was also a column where a lawyer gave free legal advice. There were pages for farm women on cooking and sewing, a page called The Maple Leaf Club for boys and girls, a column that located lost relatives, information on rocks, bugs, plants, coins, and stamps, a continued story each week, a page called Old Favourites which resurrected songs which were all but extinct, a comic strip called Juniper Junction, a page where Dorothy Dix settled family problems and counselled the lovelorn, a page for Sunday reading called The Quiet Hour, and much, much more.

But the end did come for a much-loved paper perhaps due to competition from other magazines, people's interest in radio and television, or the decline in small rural farms. The cover picture on the last paper showed a leafless tree, run-down farm buildings in a weedy field, and a closed gate to an abandoned farm. It was appropriate for the occasion, but very sad.

The paper's last edition was dated September 26, 1968 in the 100th year of its publication. That was truly the end of an era."

Well it's that time again. We've run out of page. Hope you enjoyed this issue and it left you looking forward to another. Consider becoming a member. As one person has said "a mere $10" will give you a sense of satisfaction and belonging to a very worthwhile community effort. Look forward to chatting with you next issue. Send along your comments – good or bad.